

VARIABLE POINT GENERATION CRAPS GAME

Field of Invention

The invention pertains to games of chance. More particularly, the invention relates to a variation on a dice game known as craps, however, involving a variable means of generating target and subsequent game points.

Background of the Invention

Many variations of the dice game known as craps have been developed, each attempting to add some novel feature designed to interest the gambling public. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0032471, for *Darder* is directed to an apparatus for simulating games of chance with cards. In simulating a craps game, cards are used in place of dice. The cards can be special, in that all possible variations of dice outcomes are represented. Wilde cards, such as jokers, can also be included. Multiple sets of cards along with multiple shufflers can also be used.

U.S. Patent No. 5,607,161 issued to *Skratulia*, discloses a method of playing an improved version of the game of pai gow poker. Here a set of three special dice are provided which include representation of the numbers 0, 1, 2 and 4 such that when rolled, the total numeric value of the three dice would be one of the numbers 1 through 8, with each number being equally probable. Further, a revised 56-card playing deck is provided, including a 52-card standard deck plus four jokers.

U.S. Patent No. 4,480,838, issued to *Aharonian* discloses a family financial board game. Here the game apparatus includes a pair of special dice where one die has an X on three of

its faces and is blank on the other three faces, and the other die has an X on two of its faces, a Y on another two of its faces, and the remaining two faces are blank. Each would yield a combination of an X and a Y, an X and an X, and the casting of a blank provides a third outcome.

U.S. Patent No. 6,302,395 issued to *Astaneha* is directed to a combination dice, card and roulette gambling game. In the gambling game that includes a throw of special dice, each die has a plurality of faces with a color and number on it. A plurality of cards is provided, each card having a number and a color on it. A rotatable wheel is provided that has indications for segmented areas thereon to allow a variety of creative gambling games to be played.

U.S. Patent No. 5,690,337 issued to Somma et al. is directed to a betting game apparatus and method of play. The casino card game utilizes a single 41-card deck of playing cards consisting of a standard four suit playing card deck from which all face cards have been removed and a single joker card has been added.

While other variations exist, the above-described variations of card and dice games are typical of those encountered in the prior art. It is an objective of the present invention to provide a variation of a traditional dice crap game by utilizing special card decks designed to provide the numerical combinations available in a standard pair of dice. It is a further objective to provide such combinations in multiple decks of cards. It is a still further objective of the invention to provide a means to randomly select the deck of cards from which a card will be drawn to indicate a "point" for a craps game. It is yet a further objective to provide for the instantaneous reshuffling of a card deck after a card has been drawn and returned to the deck from which it was drawn to maintain the odds of drawing any particular point. It is also an objective to provide a means for playing a craps game utilizing a single special card deck

and counting down through that deck to a card to be used as a point for the game based upon a number generated by a pair of dice or other random integer generator. Finally, it is an objective to provide a craps-type game in which the odds of drawing any particular point may change with the removal of cards from the decks.

5 While some of the objectives of the present invention are disclosed in the prior art, none of the inventions found include all of the requirements identified.

Summary of the Invention

10 The present invention addresses all of the deficiencies of prior art craps game inventions and satisfies all of the objectives described above.

(1) A variable point generation craps game may be constructed from the following components. A random indicator generator is provided. The random indicator generator is capable of generating only members of a predetermined set of indicators. At least two point value selectors are provided. Each of the set of predetermined indicators designates one of the
15 at least two point value selectors. Each of the point value selectors has an initial state providing all possible point values obtainable from a single roll of a standard pair of dice. The point values are available from the point value selector with the same probability as from the standard pair of dice. Each of the point value selectors yields at least one point for the craps game upon designation by the random indicator generator. A bet is made. The bet depends
20 upon at least one point value selected by at least one of the point value selectors.

(2) In a variant of the invention, a random indicator generator is provided. The random indicator generator is capable of generating only members of a predetermined set of indicators. At least one point value selector is provided. Each of the set of predetermined

indicators designates a predetermined operation of at least one of the point value selectors.

Each of the point value selectors has an initial state providing all possible point values obtainable from a single roll of a standard pair of dice. The point values are available from the point value selector with the same probability as from the standard pair of dice. The
 5 predetermined operation of each of the point value selectors yields at least one point for the craps game upon designation by the random indicator generator. A bet is made. The bet depends upon at least one point value selected by at least one of the point value selectors.

(3) In another variant, the random indicator generator further comprises at least one special die.

10 (4) In still another variant, the random indicator generator further comprises a special pair of dice.

(5) In yet another variant of the invention, the point value selector further comprises a special deck of cards. Each of the cards has an assigned point value. A top card of the special deck is drawn to yield a point for the craps game upon designation of the special deck of cards
 15 by the random indicator generator.

(6) In yet a further variant, the point value selector further comprises a special deck of cards. Each of the cards has an assigned point value. A card of the special deck is drawn based upon the predetermined operation to yield a point for the craps game upon designation of the predetermined operation by the random indicator generator.

20 (7) In another variant of the invention, the special deck of cards comprises 36 standard playing cards, the 36 cards are in groups as follows: 1 “two”, 2 “threes”, 3 “fours”, 4 “fives”, 5 “sixes”, 6 “sevens”, 5 “eights”, 4 “nines”, 3 “tens”, 2 “Aces” and 1 “Face Card”, each of the cards having an assigned point values as shown on the card with each “Ace” having a point

value of eleven and each "Face Card" having a point value of twelve, each of the point values providing a point for the craps game.

(8) In still another variant, each of the point value selectors is returned to the initial state after yielding a point for the craps game.

5 (9) In yet another variant, the card drawn from the special deck is returned to the special deck and the deck is either reshuffled or replaced with a reshuffled deck after yielding a point for the craps game.

(10) (Hard Way) In yet a further variant, each group of cards having an even numbered point value includes only one card of a predetermined suit. When a card of a particular point
10 value is drawn and the card is of the predetermined suit, the point value is considered to be drawn "the hard way" resulting in a higher payoff for the bet.

(11) (Pass Line) In still a further variant, a player drawing either of a seven and an eleven prior to any other point will win the bet. A player drawing either a two, a three or a twelve prior to any other point will lose the bet. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six,
15 an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a target. A player drawing the target prior to drawing a seven will win the bet. A player drawing a seven prior to drawing the target will lose the bet.

(12) (Don't Pass Line) In another variant of the invention, a player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior to any other point will lose the bet. A player drawing either a two or
20 a three prior to any other point will win the bet. A player drawing a twelve will draw again. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a target. A player drawing the target prior to drawing a seven will win the bet. A player drawing a seven prior to drawing the target will lose the bet.

(13) (Come Bet) In still another variant, a player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior to any other point will win the bet. A player drawing either a two, a three or a twelve prior to any other point will lose the bet. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a target. A player drawing the target prior to drawing a seven will win the bet. After establishment of the target the player places a second bet. A player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior to any other point will win the second bet. A player drawing either a two, a three or a twelve prior to any other point will lose the second bet. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a come point. A player drawing the come point prior to drawing a seven will win the second bet. A player drawing a seven prior to drawing the come point will lose the second bet.

(14) (Don't Come Bet) In yet another variant of the invention, a player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior to any other point will win the bet. A player drawing either a two, a three or a twelve prior to any other point will lose the bet. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a target. A player drawing the target prior to drawing a seven will win the bet. After establishment of the target the player places a second bet. A player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior to any other point will lose the second bet. A player drawing either a two or a three prior to any other point will win the second bet. A player drawing a twelve will draw again. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a come point. A player drawing the come point prior to drawing a seven will lose the second bet. A player drawing a seven prior to drawing the come point will win the second bet.

(15) (Odds) In still another variant, after establishment of either a target or a come point a player places a third bet based upon the point value of a next draw. The third bet is based upon either a success or a failure in drawing either of the target and the come point before a seven is drawn. The third bet pays two to one if either a four or a ten is drawn, pays
 5 three to two if either a five, a seven or a nine is drawn and pays six to five if either a six or an eight is drawn.

(16) (Place Bets) In a further variant, after establishment of a target a player places a fourth bet based upon a point value of a next draw. The fourth bet is based upon success in drawing the target before a seven is drawn. The fourth bet pays nine to five if either a four or
 10 a ten is drawn, pays seven to five if either a five or a nine is drawn and pays seven to six if either a six or an eight is drawn.

(17) (Field Bets) In still a further variant, prior to any draw, a player places a fifth bet. The fifth bet is based upon the point value of the first card drawn. The fifth bet pays one to one if either a three, a four, a nine, a ten or an eleven is drawn, pays two to one if either a two
 15 or a twelve is drawn and loses if either a five, a six, a seven or an eight is drawn.

(18) (Big 6 or 8) In yet a further variant, prior to any draw, a player places a sixth bet. The sixth bet is based upon the point value of any card drawn prior to drawing a seven. The sixth bet pays one to one if either a six or an eight is drawn and pays nothing for any other point value.

20 (19) (Proposition Bets) In another variant of the invention, prior to any draw, a player places a seventh bet. The seventh bet is based upon the point value of the first card drawn. The seventh bet pays eight to one if either a two, a three, or a twelve is drawn, pays five to one if a seven is drawn and pays fifteen to one if an eleven is drawn.

(20) (Proposition Bets – Hard Way) In another variant, prior to any draw, a player places an eighth bet. The eighth bet is based upon the point value of any card of the predetermined suit drawn prior to drawing a seven. The eighth bet pays eight to one if either a two, a three, or a twelve is drawn and pays fifteen to one if an eleven is drawn.

5 (41) In still another variant of the invention, a random indicator generator is provided. The random indicator generator is capable of generating only members of a predetermined set of indicators. At least two point value selectors are provided. Each of the set of predetermined indicators designates one of the at least two point value selectors. Each of the point value selectors has an initial state providing all possible point values obtainable from a
10 single roll of a standard pair of dice. Each of the point value selectors yields at least one point for the craps game upon designation by the random indicator generator. A bet is made. The bet depends upon at least one point value selected by at least one of the point value selectors.

 (42) In yet another variant, a random indicator generator is provided. The random indicator generator is capable of generating only members of a predetermined set of
15 indicators. At least one point value selector is provided. Each of the set of predetermined indicators designates a predetermined operation of at least one of the point value selectors. Each of the point value selectors has an initial state providing all possible point values obtainable from a single roll of a standard pair of dice. The predetermined operation of each of the point value selectors yields at least one point for the craps game upon designation by
20 the random indicator generator. A bet is made. The bet depends upon at least one point value selected by at least one of the point value selectors.

(43) In still a further variant, the point value selector further comprises a standard deck of cards. Each of the cards has an assigned point value. A top card of the standard deck is

drawn to yield a point for the craps game upon designation of the standard deck of cards by the random indicator generator.

(44) In another variant of the invention, the point value selector includes a standard deck of cards. Each of the cards has an assigned point value. A card of the standard deck is
5 drawn based upon the predetermined operation to yield a point for the craps game upon designation of the predetermined operation by the random indicator generator.

(45) In still another variant, each of the point value selectors is returned to the initial state after yielding a point for the craps game upon designation of the point value selector by the random indicator generator.

10 (46) In a yet another variant, the card drawn from the standard deck is returned to the standard deck and the deck is either reshuffled or replaced with a reshuffled deck after yielding a point for the craps game.

(47) In a final variant of the invention, the random indicator generator is a choice made by a player of the craps game.

15 It is noted that, while bets are referred to as “second bet”, “fourth bet” or “eighth bet”, these are merely different types of bets and are not necessarily made in sequential order. For example, a player could make only the “sixth bet” and no others.

An appreciation of the other aims and objectives of the present invention and an understanding of it may be achieved by referring to the accompanying drawings and the
20 detailed description of a preferred embodiment.

Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a random indicator selector employing a single dice with integers;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a random indicator selector employing a pair of dice
5 with integers;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of a random indicator selector employing a single dice with geometric designs;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a random indicator selector employing a pair of dice with geometric designs;

10 **Figure 5** is a plan view of a random indicator selector employing a deck of cards and a layout grid;

Figure 6 is a side elevational view of a random indicator selector employing numbered balls and a ball dispenser; and

Figure 7 is a plan view of a craps game playing surface adapted to the present
15 invention.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

(1) **Figures 1-7** illustrate a variable point generation craps game **10** that may be constructed from the following components. A random indicator generator **15** is provided.
20 The random indicator generator **15** is capable of generating only members **20** of a predetermined set of indicators **25**. At least two point value selectors **30** are provided. Each of the set of predetermined indicators **25** designates one of the at least two point value selectors **30**. Each of the point value selectors **30** has an initial state **35** providing all possible

point values not shown obtainable from a single roll of a standard pair of dice not shown. The point values are available from the point value selector **30** with the same probability as from the standard pair of dice. Each of the point value selectors **30** yields at least one point for the craps game **10** upon designation by the random indicator generator **15**. A bet **50** is made. The
 5 bet **50** depends upon at least one point value selected by at least one of the point value selectors **30**.

(2) In a variant of the invention, a random indicator generator **15** is provided. The random indicator generator **15** is capable of generating only members **20** of a predetermined set of indicators **25**. At least one point value selector **30** is provided. Each of the set of
 10 predetermined indicators **25** designates a predetermined operation not shown of at least one of the point value selectors **30**. Each of the point value selectors **30** has an initial state **35** providing all possible point values obtainable from a single roll of a standard pair of dice. The point values are available from the point value selector **30** with the same probability as from the standard pair of dice. The predetermined operation of each of the point value selectors **30**
 15 yields at least one point for the craps game **10** upon designation by the random indicator generator **15**. A bet **50** is made. The bet **50** depends upon at least one point value selected by at least one of the point value selectors **30**.

(3) In another variant, the random indicator generator **15** further comprises at least one special die **60**.

20 (4) In still another variant, the random indicator generator **15** further comprises a special pair of dice **65**.

(5) In yet another variant of the invention, the point value selector **30** further comprises a special deck not shown of cards not shown. Each of the cards **75** has an assigned point

value. A top card of the special deck is drawn to yield a point for the craps game **10** upon designation of the special deck of cards by the random indicator generator **15**.

(6) In yet a further variant, the point value selector **30** further comprises a special deck of cards. Each of the cards has an assigned point value **40**. A card of the special deck is
 5 drawn based upon the predetermined operation to yield a point for the craps game **10** upon designation of the predetermined operation by the random indicator generator **15**.

(7) In another variant of the invention, the special deck of cards comprises 36 standard playing cards not shown, the 36 cards are in groups as follows: 1 “two”, 2 “threes”, 3 “fours”, 4 “fives”, 5 “sixes”, 6 “sevens”, 5 “eights”, 4 “nines”, 3 “tens”, 2 “Aces” and 1 “Face Card”,
 10 each of the cards having an assigned point values as shown on the card with each “Ace” having a point value of eleven and each “Face Card” having a point value of twelve, each of the point values providing a point for the craps game **10**.

(8) In still another variant, each of the point value selectors **30** is returned to the initial state **35** after yielding a point for the craps game **10**.

15 (9) In yet another variant, the card drawn from the special deck is returned to the special deck and the deck is either reshuffled or replaced with a reshuffled deck after yielding a point for the craps game **10**.

(10) (Hard Way) In yet a further variant as illustrated in figure 7, each group not shown of cards having an even numbered point value **105** includes only one card of a
 20 predetermined suit **110**. When a card of a particular point value is drawn and the card is of the predetermined suit, the point value is considered to be drawn “the hard way” resulting in a higher payoff for the bet **50**.

(11) (Pass Line) In still a further variant, a player (not shown) drawing either of a seven and an eleven prior to any other point will win the bet **50**. A player drawing either a two, a three or a twelve prior to any other point will lose the bet **50**. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point **40** will establish that point

5 **40** as a target **115**. A player drawing the target **115** prior to drawing a seven will win the bet **50**. A player drawing a seven prior to drawing the target **115** will lose the bet **50**.

(12) (Don't Pass Line) In another variant of the invention, a player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior to any other point will lose the bet **50**. A player drawing either a two or a three prior to any other point will win the bet **50**. A player drawing a twelve will draw

10 again. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a target not shown. A player drawing the target prior to drawing a seven will win the bet **50**. A player drawing a seven prior to drawing the target will lose the bet **50**.

(13) (Come Bet) In still another variant, a player drawing either a seven or an eleven

15 prior to any other point will win the bet **50**. A player drawing either a two, a three or a twelve prior to any other point will lose the bet **50**. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a target. A player drawing the target prior to drawing a seven will win the bet **50**. After establishment of the target the player places a second bet **120**. A player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior

20 to any other point will win the second bet **120**. A player drawing either a two, a three or a twelve prior to any other point will lose the second bet **120**. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a come point not shown. A player drawing the come point prior to drawing a seven will win the

second bet **120**. A player drawing a seven prior to drawing the come point will lose the second bet **120**.

(14) (Don't Come Bet) In yet another variant of the invention, a player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior to any other point will win the bet **50**. A player drawing either a two, a three or a twelve prior to any other point will lose the bet **50**. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a target. A player drawing the target prior to drawing a seven will win the bet **50**. After establishment of the target the player places a second bet **120**. A player drawing either a seven or an eleven prior to any other point will lose the second bet **120**. A player drawing either a two or a three prior to any other point will win the second bet **120**. A player drawing a twelve will draw again. A player drawing either a four, a five, a six, an eight, a nine or a ten prior to any other point will establish that point as a come point. A player drawing the come point **125** prior to drawing a seven will lose the second bet **120**. A player drawing a seven prior to drawing the come point will win the second bet **120**.

(15) (Odds) In still another variant, after establishment of either a target or a come point a player places a third bet **130** based upon the point value **40** of a next draw. The third bet **130** is based upon either a success or a failure in drawing either of the target **115** or the come point **125** before a seven is drawn. The third bet **130** pays two to one if either a four or a ten is drawn, pays three to two if either a five, a seven or a nine is drawn and pays six to five if either a six or an eight is drawn.

(16) (Place Bets) In a further variant, after establishment of a target a player places a fourth bet **135** based upon a point value of a next draw. The fourth bet **135** is based upon success in drawing the target before a seven is drawn. The fourth bet **135** pays nine to five if

either a four or a ten is drawn , pays seven to five if either a five or a nine is drawn and pays seven to six if either a six or an eight is drawn.

(17) (Field Bets) In still a further variant, prior to any draw, a player places a fifth bet **140**. The fifth bet **140** is based upon the point value of the first card drawn. The fifth bet **140** pays one to one if either a three, a four, a nine, a ten or an eleven is drawn, pays two to one if either a two or a twelve is drawn and loses if either a five, a six, a seven or an eight is drawn.

(18) (Big 6 or 8) In yet a further variant, prior to any draw, a player places a sixth bet **145**. The sixth bet **145** is based upon the point value of any card drawn prior to drawing a seven. The sixth bet pays one to one if either a six or an eight is drawn and pays nothing for any other point value.

(19) (Proposition Bets) In another variant of the invention, prior to any draw, a player places a seventh bet **150**. The seventh bet **150** is based upon the point value of the first card drawn. The seventh bet **150** pays eight to one if either a two, a three, or a twelve is drawn, pays five to one if a seven is drawn and pays fifteen to one if an eleven is drawn.

(20) (Proposition Bets – Hard Way) In a final variant, prior to any draw, a player places an eighth bet **155**. The eighth bet **155** is based upon the point value of any card of the predetermined suit **110** drawn prior to drawing a seven. The eighth bet **155** pays eight to one if either a two, a three, or a twelve is drawn and pays fifteen to one if an eleven is drawn.

(41) In still another variant of the invention, a random indicator generator **15** is provided. The random indicator generator **15** is capable of generating only members **20** of a predetermined set of indicators **25**. At least two point value selectors **30** are provided. Each member **20** of the predetermined set of indicators **25** designates one of the at least two point value selectors **30**. Each of the point value selectors **30** has an initial state **35** providing all

possible point values obtainable from a single roll of a standard pair of dice. Each of the point value selectors **30** yields at least one point for the craps game **10** upon designation by the random indicator generator **15**. A bet **50** is made. The bet **50** depends upon at least one point value selected by at least one of the point value selectors **30**.

5 (42) In yet another variant, a random indicator generator **15** is provided. The random indicator generator **15** is capable of generating only members **20** of a predetermined set of indicators **25**. At least one point value selector **30** is provided. Each member **20** of the predetermined set of indicators **25** designates a predetermined operation of at least one of the point value selectors **30**. Each of the point value selectors **30** has an initial state **35** providing
10 all possible point values obtainable from a single roll of a standard pair of dice. The predetermined operation of each of the point value selectors **30** yields at least one point for the craps game **10** upon designation by the random indicator generator **15**. A bet **50** is made. The bet **50** depends upon at least one point value selected by at least one of the point value selectors **30**.

15 (43) In still a further variant, the point value selector **30** further comprises a standard deck not shown of cards not shown. Each of the cards has an assigned point value. A top card not shown of the standard deck is drawn to yield a point for the craps game **10** upon designation of the standard deck of cards by the random indicator generator **15**.

20 (44) In another variant of the invention, the point value selector **30** includes a standard deck of cards. Each of the cards has an assigned point value. A card of the standard deck is drawn based upon the predetermined operation to yield a point for the craps game **10** upon designation of the predetermined operation by the random indicator generator **15**.

(45) In still another variant, each of the point value selectors **30** is returned to the initial state **35** after yielding a point for the craps game **10** upon designation of the point value selector **30** by the random indicator generator **15**.

(46) In a final variant of the invention, the card drawn from the standard deck is
5 returned to the standard deck and the deck is either reshuffled or replaced with a reshuffled deck after yielding a point for the craps game **10**.

(47) In a final variant of the invention the random indicator generator **15** is a choice made by a player of the craps game **10**.

The variable point generation craps game **10** has been described with reference to
10 particular embodiments. Other modifications and enhancements can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the claims that follow.